

JMJA 6651  
TMJA 6651

**DEGREE OF MASTER OF SCIENCE  
DEGREE OF MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY**

**Modern Japanese Studies**

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**MODERN JAPANESE LITERATURE**

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**TRINITY TERM 2008**

**Friday 6 June, 9.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.**

Please start the answer to each question on a separate sheet.

Candidates should answer **THREE** questions.

Do **not** turn over until told that you may do so.

1. Is the category of “*joryū bungaku*” (women’s literature) useful for our understanding of the role of women writers in modern Japanese literature?
2. How is the development of literature in the Meiji period linked to issues of nation-building and national identity?
3. What were the major issues facing the Japanese proletarian literary movement?
4. What issues did *genbun itchi* (the unification of spoken and written languages) attempt to address?
5. What is an “I-novel” (*watakushi shōsetsu, shishōsetsu*)? Use specific works and/or authors in your discussion.
6. Compare Tsubouchi Shōyō’s vision of modern Japanese literature with that of Motoori Norinaga.
7. In what ways are works by Enchi Fumiko representative of the experience of women in the post-war period?
8. What is the relationship between the post-war literary genre *nikutai bungaku* (literature of the flesh) and subjectivity?
9. EITHER  
How does Karatani Kōjin define “interiority”?  
  
OR  
Discuss what Karatani Kōjin means by “the discovery of landscape”.
10. How does Sakaguchi Ango’s *Darakuron* (Discourse on Decadence) inform discourse on post-war writing?
11. In what ways does Shimazaki Tōson’s *The Broken Commandment* function as an allegory for the nation?
12. Is contemporary feminist theory useful for analysing texts by modern Japanese women writers?